



Office of the Board of Regents

**Board of Regents Minutes
Public Session
February 2, 2010**

The meeting of the Morgan State University Board of Regents was called to order by the Chairman, Dallas R. Evans at 12:10 p.m. The Regents present were:

Mr. Dallas R. Evans, Chairman
Rev. Dr. Frances M. Draper, Secretary
Ms. Shirley Marcus Allen
The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings
Mr. Franklin L. Edmonds, Regent
General (Ret.) Larry R. Ellis
Mr. Donald R. Frieson
Dr. Linda J. Gilliam
Senator Laurence Levitan
Dr. Shirley M. Malcom
Mr. Kweisi Mfume
Ms. Nahila Bertrand

Also present were Dr. Earl S. Richardson, University President, and Ms. Elena Langrill, Assistant Attorney General.

Absent from the meeting was the Vice Chair, Mr. Martin R. Resnick, Dr. Charles W. Griffin and Mr. William R. Roberts.

Opening Remarks

Chairman Evans welcomed General Ellis to the Board and mentioned that he is a Morgan graduate and has served our country for a number of years in the United States Army. General Ellis stated that he was honored to serve on the Morgan State Board of Regents and stated he was glad to be back home.

Approval of Minutes

It was MOVED and SECONDED to approve the minutes for November 3, 2009. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Report of the President

Fall Enrollment

This past fall, Morgan enrolled the largest student body in its history. The University's total enrollment of 7,495 represented an increase of 360 students, or 5 percent, over the previous year. The campus enrolled 201, or 3.2 percent, more undergraduate students than in 2009 and 159 (17.1 percent) more at the graduate level. The graduate enrollment level is now above the level of the early 1970s, its previous high.

Over half of public four-year campuses, including Morgan, experienced declines in freshman enrollment. The freshmen enrollment situation bears watching statewide because the number of Maryland high school graduates has now peaked and will decline sharply for the rest of the decade. In addition, the poor economy and the high price of higher education have combined to shift more enrollments to lower-priced community colleges within the state. Morgan's decline in freshmen was more than made up by an increase in community college transfer students.

Academic Programs

The Maryland Higher Education Commission has just released its data for degrees awarded during 2009. Morgan once again led the state in the number of bachelor's degrees awarded to African Americans with 780. Morgan was followed by UM College Park with 704 and UM University College with 679. At the doctoral level Morgan tied with UM College Park in the number of awards to African Americans with 30. Among the fields in which Morgan leads the state in degrees awarded to African Americans are architecture, civil engineering, electrical engineering, industrial engineering, physics/engineering physics, chemistry, and elementary education.

The University's graduate programs in public health have recently had their specialized accreditation reaffirmed.

The Maryland Higher Education Commission last week turned down the appeal by the University of Maryland University College to offer its on-line doctoral program in community college leadership to Maryland residents. It had placed this restriction on the program in order to avoid duplication with Morgan's existing program. Meanwhile, Morgan is transitioning to an on-line version of its own and its goal is to offer an on-line version of its program beginning this fall. The current issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education* has an article on the situation which also summarizes the broader dilemma faced by states in dealing with on-line education and program duplication.

The new School of Social Work is now operational. It formerly had been an academic department within the School of Education and Urban Studies.

Government Affairs

Higher Education Overview: The Maryland Higher Education Commission has presented its higher education overview to committees of both the House and Senate. The highlights were as follow:

- **Study of Improving Graduation Rates at HBIs:** In response to a legislative requirement, representatives from the four HBIs and MHEC representatives met during the summer to prepare a report: *Best Practices for Accelerating Student Success at Maryland's Historically Black Institutions*. The report identifies seven approaches that have achieved success among under-prepared students. All of the identified approaches already have been implemented at the HBIs, but the funding to support them has been limited.
- **College Readiness:** The Governor's P-20 Council has formed a workgroup to define college readiness. The impetus for this study is the large and growing number of college freshmen who need remedial courses.
- **Educational Longitudinal Data System:** For over three decades, Maryland higher education has had a model data system for gathering student data and tracking students from year to year. Elementary and secondary education has not had such a system. The federal government is now requiring that states that want to be eligible for certain grants have a comprehensive system that tracks students from elementary school through college graduation. It is providing grants for development of such systems. A plan has been developed to create such a system for Maryland and a proposal for federal funding for the proposed system has been submitted.
- **University System of Maryland at Hagerstown:** A proposal to establish a regional center in Hagerstown that would be used by colleges throughout the state has been submitted to the Legislature. MHEC plans to study all eight regional higher education centers in Maryland using the same approach as was used in the Hagerstown study.

Governor's Budget Recommendation: The Governor has presented his operating and capital budgets to the Legislature.

- **Operating Budget for FY 2011:** The University submitted a request of \$31.9 million of additional recurring operating funds, \$10.4 of which is related to mandatory costs and required to restore our funding level at the beginning of this fiscal year. Initially, the Governor recommended a \$2.5 million increase (\$1.7 million to restore funding associated with a furlough requirement, \$.4 million for a 2 percent tuition subsidy, and \$.4 million for general support) increasing State support from \$71.6 to \$74.1 million. The furlough now appears to be required, leaving \$.8 million in additional funding. At the

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same time, it appears that our health insurance costs will increase by \$1.2 million for which funding was not provided.

The hearing schedule for the operating budget is as follows:

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Subcommittee on Health, Education & Human Resources
3 West Miller Senate Building
Friday, February 19, 2010 at 1 p.m.

House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Education & Economic Development
145 House Office Building
Monday, March 1, 2010 at 3 p.m.

Capital Budget: The University requested \$52.5 million in capital funding. The Governor has recommended \$33.9 million of funding for the following projects:

- **Center for Built Environment & Infrastructure Studies (CBEIS) - \$30,435,000:** Second year construction and half of the equipment funding, with the balance to follow next year.
- **New School of Business - \$250,000:** Additional planning allocation with the balance (\$1.4 million) to follow in the first year of construction funding.
- **Supplement Banneker Renovation - \$3,265,000:** To address a potential shortfall in project costs.

No funding was provided for equipment for the Lillie Carroll Jackson Museum, campus-wide site improvements, planning for the renovation of Soper Library, planning for the demolition of Jenkins, and planning and construction to address deficiencies in the Welding & Foundry labs.

The President stated that it might be good to sit down and have a conversation with the family of Mrs. Jackson about the family assisting with the development efforts since there is no state funding available. A national campaign might be a good way to raise funds. The University could possibly work with the cooperation from the family to initiate a capital campaign. The campaign would solicit funds from corporations and non-profits that interacted with Mrs. Jackson over the years. At one point, an advisory group was formed of the Jackson family and Judge Robert Watts for the purpose of raising funds for the museum. However, no dollars were raised. We are now compensating for the lack of funds.

Legislative Audit

The University is anticipating that the Legislative Auditors will begin their audit in the near future. Since the prior audit, which was carried out three years ago, the University has made substantial progress in addressing each of the audit findings. In addition, significant

improvements have been made in the construction management operations. The Capital Construction Review Committee (CCRC), a key component of efforts to improve construction management, has brought together applicable department heads to provide oversight for certain aspects of capital projects. The University has received no communication from the Office of the Attorney General regarding its investigation into the matters that were the subject of the prior legislative audit. Chairman Evans stated that the Board will send another letter to the Attorney General's Office to request ruling be made.

BRAC Update

State agencies and institutions of higher education continue to engage in needs assessment and planning in conjunction with BRAC developments. Morgan has been part of the discussions both as part of the higher education community and independently. The University has identified needs for a number of actions including new degree and certificate programs. Currently Morgan is part of four memoranda of understanding that are awaiting approval, has recently been awarded four grants related to BRAC, and has been awarded two grants by MHEC for BRAC initiatives.

Remarks by Counsel

Ms. Elena Langrill, Assistant Attorney General stated that she had nothing to report.

Reports of Standing Committees

Academic & Student Affairs

Regent Allen presented the report of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee and offered the following for approval:

- **Honorary Degree Recommendation (Dr. Harrison De Wayne Whittington):**
Dr. Harrison DeWayne Whittington is the first and only African American to have served as Superintendent of Somerset County Public Schools. He is a graduate of Morgan State College, where he received his BS degree. He also received a Master of Education degree from Pennsylvania State University and a Ph.D. in Education. He serves as a member of committees, to include, the Somerset County Democratic Club, Somerset County Commission on Mental Health and Planning, Somerset County Housing Review Board. He is active in several civic and community organizations within Somerset County and has served as a member of a number of boards, such as the National Education Association (State Delegate 1968-1970), Maryland State Teachers Association, etc.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** to approve the honorary degree recommendation for Dr. Harrison DeWayne Whittington. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Finance and Facilities

The Finance and Facilities Committee report was presented by Regent Edmonds and the committee offered the following items for approval by the Board:

- **FY 2011 Tuition and Fee Increase Recommendations:** Approval is requested for modest increases in tuition rates in support of instruction and instructional support services for FY 2011 operations. In addition, fee increases are requested for various self-support operations to include: the student center, athletics, shuttle bus operations, student activities, room and board. Please refer to pages 8 and 9 of the report for specific outlined increases.

As outlined in Attachment II, the requested tuition and fee increases are expected to provide approximately \$2,388,645 of additional estimated revenue including \$1,487,517 in tuition revenue, \$67,584 in student center operating revenue, \$212,934 in athletics revenue, \$13,539 in student government revenue, \$47,331 in shuttle bus revenue, \$329,000 in room revenue, and \$230,740 in board revenue to be utilized toward the projected FY 2011 resource requirements.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** to approve the FY 2011 tuition and fee increase recommendations. THE MOTION CARRIED.

The remainder of the report is for information.

The Regents led a discussion on fundraising for the University, mentioning that our students need the assistance. It was suggested that an endowment be put in place rather than the University's usual procedure of a capital campaign. It was suggested that some thought should be given to the matter of increased giving from the alumni, perhaps in conjunction with an endowment.

Institutional Advancement

Ms. Cheryl Hitchcock, Vice President for Institutional Advancement reported that Mrs. Penelope Taylor (retired MBNA America Bank officer) has been appointed to the Foundation Board. Ms. Hitchcock mentioned that Institutional Advancement had received several contributions, including a donation of \$100,000 from Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Tyler.

New Business

A photograph of the CBEIS (Center for Built Environment and Infrastructure Studies) building, which will be located north of the Engineering complex, is included in today's materials. The groundbreaking ceremony for the building is scheduled for April 2. The governor and other Maryland officials are scheduled to attend. The CBEIS project was bid in two phases.

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Phase 1 was for the site and structural work which includes utilities, structural steel, roofing and metal panels; the bid was received at the end of November and was under budget. Phase 2 is for all other work such as electrical, mechanical, drywall, etc.

The meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Linda Newson